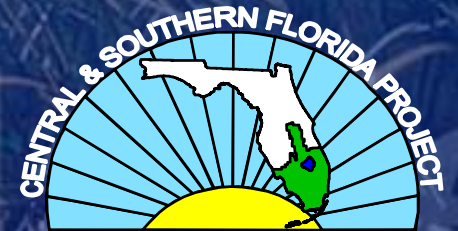


Working Group Update on Hot Topics



Sept 2003



COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES
RESTORATION PLAN

Indian River Lagoon

Status:

1. **Special Project Implementation Report and Supplemental EIS are being prepared to address WRDA 2000 requirements not included in Feasibility Report as well as a Value Engineering report on the C-44 Reservoir location. A Public Meeting on these will be held in January.**
2. **The Final PIR and SEIS will be forwarded to HQ in March 04.**
3. **We anticipate that the Special PIR and Feasibility report will be combined into one PIR for issuance of the Chief's Report and ultimate transmittal to Congress.**
4. **The recommended plan contained in the Feasibility Report remains unchanged.**

Southern Golden Gate Estates

Status:

- 1. Jacksonville Corps Office and SFWMD are working on additional modeling to better define benefits and identify any potential impacts of plan implementation**
- 2. This is a PIR and as such will include the WRDA 2000 requirements.**
- 3. PDT is working to have a final PIR released in FY 04 in time for Congress to consider for inclusion in any WRDA 2004 proposed.**
- 4. SFWMD is pursuing a contract to implement the Prairie Canal portion of project to obtain early benefits.**

Modified Water Deliveries to ENP

Status:

- 1. Implementation of plan for 8.5 SMA is continuing.**
- 2. Real Estate: Continuing land acquisition and meeting with residents. 17 tracts closed since acquisition reinitiated.**
- 3. Design proceeding for S-357, STA, Canal, and Levee. Contract awards in mid 04. Contract for demolition of already purchased homes being developed.**
- 4. Tamiami Trail GRR being finalized, submittal early 04.**

IOP/CSOP

Status:

1. Operations under IOP continue, currently in Column 1 mode with no by pass.
2. CSOP advisory team Charter
3. CSOP Purpose and Objectives Paper presented to SFWMD Governing Board, they are seeking input through WRAC.

Initial CERP Update

Status:

- 1. Existing conditions (2000) have been run and final verification is nearly complete.**
- 2. Work on Year 2000 base condition modeling will start following release of Existing condition run.**
- 3. Work will focus on the incremental runs over 50 year planning life.**
- 4. Work on inclusion of D13R will then follow.**
- 5. Full implementation of the IMC continues with training of new modelers.**

Critical Projects

Current Events:

1. 10 Mile Creek – Contract bids received, working to award this month.
2. C-11 – Last contract for divide structure (S-381) to be awarded by end of month.
3. Lake Okeechobee CP – Solicitation for 8a has been cancelled for Taylor Creek portion and will re-advertise. Nubbin Slough to follow.
4. Lake Trafford – SFWMD proceeding with construction of dredged material containment area and redesign of dredging project.
5. Tamiami Trail Culverts – SFWMD is proceeding with that portion of work south of SGGE. Rest of work is being held pending availability of funds to proceed with contract.

Lake Okeechobee

1. **Current Lake Level receding (16.9) feet, now in Zone C.**
2. **Inflows to Lake decreasing below 10,000 cfs. ET remains high with reduced rainfall.**
3. **Currently, releases have been reduced from 8,500 to 6,500 cfs out the Caloosahatchee and from 4,500 to 3,500 out the St Lucie. May be further reduced this weekend.**
4. **Recent dryer spells have decreased inflows and local inflows to St Lucie and Caloosahatchee.**
5. **Working with SFWMD on potential for temporary deviation and/or WSE schedule tweaking.**
6. **Lake Toho draw down pending.**

Improving CERP Implementation

Status:

1. Jacksonville Corps Office and SFWMD have been working closely over the last several months to identify problems with CERP implementation process and opportunities for accelerating restoration.
2. Three tracks have been identified for improving implementation of CERP
 - a. Most projects will continue on an enhanced joint implementation process for PIR development and project implementation.
 - b. A lead agency (either Corps or SFWMD) may be designated to move forward with a project in order to focus resources that are available on implementation of the project.
 - c. SFWMD may elect to move forward with implementation of certain projects to achieve early benefits while the PIR development continues

Improving CERP Implementation (Cont'd)

- 1. Enhanced PIR Development Process focuses on streamlining the PIR where appropriate, e.g., authorized projects and programmatic projects can be implemented on a faster track.**
- 2. Dual Implementation Track**
 - a. PDT will continue with development of the PIR based on improved process.**
 - b. SFWMD will proceed with the design and construction of select projects.**
 - 1) Site 1**
 - 2) Southern Golden Gate Estates (Prairie Canal)**
 - 3) WPA (C-9, C-11, WCA 3A/3B Seepage Mgmt)**
 - 4) C-44 Reservoir**
 - 5) Strazulla**

Questions?

